

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT

Atty. Docket No. (Opt.)

ZIMM1720

Applicant <b>Karl Belliard</b>	
Application Number <b>10/735,603</b>	Filed <b>12/12/2003</b>
For <b>Intervertebral Disk Prosthesis</b>	
Group Art Unit <b>3774</b>	Examiner <b>Stewart, Alvin J.</b>
Confirmation Number: <b>1725</b>	

Certification of Transmission Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22312-1450 via the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Electronic Filing System (EFS-Web) on 7/30/09 2009.

Signature

Printed Name

Dear Sir,

Applicant respectfully requests, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, that the information listed on the attached SB08A/B form(s) be considered and cited in the examination of the above-identified application. A copy of U.S. Patent(s) and U.S. Patent Application Publication(s) listed on the attached SB08A form is not being submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. A copy of foreign patent documents as well as the information listed on the attached SB08B form is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application;

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the period specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) and before the mailing date of any of a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:

- The statement specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); or
- The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to deduct the amount of \$180 from Deposit Account No. 50-3183 of Sprinkle IP Law Group for the filing fee of this Information Disclosure Statement.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the period specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by:

- The statement specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); and
- The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to deduct the amount of \$180 from Deposit Account No. 50-3183 of Sprinkle IP Law Group for the filing fee of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), Applicant hereby states:

That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement; or

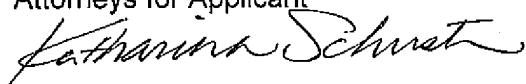
That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Furthermore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(g) and (h), no representation is made that a search has been made or that this information is material to patentability of the present application.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of Applicant's above-referenced patent application are patentably distinguishable from the listed information.

Respectfully submitted,

**Sprinkle IP Law Group**  
Attorneys for Applicant



Katharina W. Schuster  
Reg. No. 50,000

Dated: *July 29, 2009*  
1301 W. 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 408  
Austin, Texas 78705  
Tel. (512) 637-9220  
Fax. (512) 317-9088